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WASHINGTON, SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 18, 1909.

PRICE ONE CENT.

CITIZENS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN AGAINST "LOAN SHARK EVIL"

Big Public Meeting to Be
Held by Monday Even-
ing Club.

USURY SAID TO BE CAUSE OF CRIMES

Specific Cases Will Be Related by
Speakers Where Tragedies
Have Followed.

Intending to strongly back up the proposed West bill to curtail the activities of Washington's numerous "loan sharks," a civic movement will be formally launched next Monday night through which a hope is expressed by its leaders that this rapacious gentry may be driven out of business for all time.

TO FIGHT WITH VIGOR.

The head of the movement will be in the Monday Evening Club, an organization composed of men and women who are interested in civic movements and municipal reform.

At a meeting which will be held at the Young Men's Christian Association building a committee will be appointed to take up the fight on the loan sharks with vigor and determination, and no stone will be left unturned in the effort to arouse public sentiment in favor of the pending loan shark legislation, and force its passage by Congress.

Hundreds of invitations to attend this meeting have been issued by the Monday Evening Club and a large attendance is expected.

Extortion Leads to Crime.

Addresses will be made by W. N. Finley, of Baltimore, president of the National Federation of Refrugal Loan Agencies; Arthur H. Ham, of the Sage Foundation, and S. M. Reynolds, of the Baltimore News.

Mr. Finley's address will be based on eleven years' experience with and study of the business of making loans to the poor of his city by unscrupulous loan agents. He will present concrete cases showing how small wage earners, once in the clutches of merciless loan sharks, have been driven to the desperate ends of committing crimes and wife desertion when they thought they saw no escape from their tormentors.

The Rev. Dr. John Van Schaick, Jr., pastor of the Church of Our Father, and chairman of the executive committee of the Monday Evening Club, will take a leading part in the campaign to crush the loan sharks.

He believes the time is ripe to enact legislation that will drive the unscrupulous money lender from the field, who at the same time giving ample protection to those who are in the business on legitimate business lines.

Dr. Van Schaick became interested in the need of remedial legislation about two years ago, when his attention was called to the cases of several victims of unfeeling and relentless loan sharks. Investigation, he says, showed that these borrowers were honest, well-intending men who, by reason of sickness or death in their families, had been forced to seek the money lender or suffer some humiliation of admitting inability to pay their debts to local merchants.

Dr. Van Schaick adds that he was astounded at the lack of ordinary feeling shown these borrowers by the loan men, and in two or three cases their bounding almost resulted in tragedies.

In outlining the purposes of this organization, he said that the loan sharks, Dr. Van Schaick said this morning said:

"What we are trying to do is to make it possible for the poor to borrow money without facing ruin. Family crises occur in all classes of society. Sickness

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

WEATHER REPORT.

The disturbance near the middle Gulf coast will cause rain or snow tonight or Sunday in the Gulf and south Atlantic States, and possibly some snow Sunday in the southern portion of the middle Atlantic States. Local snows will also continue from the Lake region eastward.

It will be colder tonight in western New England and the middle Atlantic States, and much colder in the east Gulf States, with a cold wave in the southern portion. It will also be colder Sunday in the south Atlantic States. In the interior low temperature will continue.

Cold wave warnings have been ordered for western Florida, southern Alabama, southern Mississippi, Louisiana, and the eastern and southern portions of eastern Texas.

FORECAST FOR DISTRICT.
Fair, continued cold tonight; minimum temperature about 18 degrees. Sunday cloudy, possibly snow, moderate west to north winds.

TEMPERATURE.
8 a. m. 26
9 a. m. 27
10 a. m. 28
11 a. m. 29
12 p. m. 29

TIDE TABLE.
Today—High tide, 12:30 a. m. Low tide, 6:20 a. m. and 6:30 p. m.
Tomorrow—High tide, 12:57 p. m. and 1:15 p. m. Low tide, 7:15 a. m. and 7:49 p. m.

SUN TABLE.
Sun rises 7:13
Sun sets 4:40
CONDITION OF WATER.
HARPER FERRY, W. Va., Dec. 18.—Both rivers muddy this morning.

CHARGES ARE FILED AGAINST D. W. BAKER

Department of Justice Gets
Protests on District
Attorney.

TERM TO EXPIRE THIS MIDNIGHT

Official Declares He Has Heard
Nothing Whatever of
the Matter.

D. W. Baker, United States District Attorney for the District of Columbia, whose term of office expires at midnight tonight, is under rigid investigation by the Department of Justice as a result of serious charges which have been filed against him with the Attorney General.

Mr. Baker is an applicant for reappointment. Although no official admission is made at the Department of Justice that the charges have been filed, The Times is able to state positively that such action has been taken and that A. B. Bielaski, examiner for the department, has been busy for the past ten days collecting all the evidence possible regarding the situation.

Mr. Bielaski has been working among the Washington attorneys, as the general tenor of the accusations is that Mr. Baker has practiced favoritism in the conduct of his office, and that some lawyers have been able to obtain favors in regard to their clients, while others could not have the same things done for them.

Expects Exonerated.
The friends of Mr. Baker express themselves as confident that the investigation, which is now being conducted by the department, will result in his complete exoneration. There are other attorneys, however, who have given Mr. Bielaski information bearing on the charges. In one or two cases, attorneys who possess information desired by the Attorney General have refused to be connected with the affair.

Remains in Office.
The rule of the department, when charges of such a nature are filed, is to keep them secret, if that be possible, and to submit them to the person accused who then has the privilege of submitting an answer to the allegations.

This is not the case in the case of Mr. Baker's case. It was impossible to keep the matter secret longer, however, because the investigating work done by Mr. Bielaski on behalf of the department has been so extensive that a large number of lawyers of the circumstances connected with the case.

It is unusual for a District Attorneyship appointment to be allowed to lapse as has been the case with Mr. Baker, and it is generally supposed that, had it not been for the filing of the charges, he would have been reappointed several days ago by the President.

As the situation stands now, he will continue to hold office through a lapsed appointment until the Attorney General has decided whether to reappoint Mr. Baker or to appoint another.

Mr. Baker is frankly anxious to obtain the reappointment. At this time he has to go against not only the charges which have been filed, but also against the political influence which has been lined up by the other men mentioned for the post.

The charges are described as being lengthy and covering a wide range, and including detailed circumstances surrounding the conduct of Mr. Baker, to which objection has been taken.

He said: "I have no statement to make. I do not know officially or otherwise of any investigation."

FIND GIRL'S BODY IN SHALLOW LAKE

Sarah Schugar Is Believed to Have
Drowned Self Following
Parent's Rebuke.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 18.—Lying with her face buried in the mud of the lake in Patterson Park, and her body covered by only about fifteen inches of water, seventeen-year-old Sarah Schugar was found this morning. The body is now at the morgue, where it was identified by a brother of the dead girl.

The young girl formerly lived with her father, Mr. H. Schugar, at 131 South Bond street. According to reports received by the police she had a dispute with some of her home relatives, as the result of her infatuation for a young man residing in that neighborhood.

Mrs. Edna Reynolds, thirty-six, 1243 East Madison street, attempted suicide about 3:45 o'clock this morning by throwing herself from the second story window of her home. She struck on her head a grocery store sign, but though greatly stunned by the fall, dragged herself to a broad box standing outside on the pavement below, where she was found sitting on the box by Patrolman Burkhardt with the blood flowing from wounds on her head.

H. Schwarzhaupt, a tailor, at 223 Park avenue, was found dead in the observatory pavilion in Clifton Park this morning.

SEARCH FOR VESSEL PROVES UNAVAILING

NEW LONDON, Conn., Dec. 18.—The revenue cutter Mohawk is in port today, after spending all yesterday and part of the night in searching Gardner's bay for a schooner which early today gave signals of distress. No sign of the schooner could be found, and it is possible the vessel may have foundered with its crew. The identity of the schooner is unknown.

BARONESS VAUGHAN LEAVES FOR PARIS, BUT WILL RETURN

Pressure Brought to Bear
To Prevent Her Attending
Funeral of Leopold.

HEIRS MAY DIVIDE LEOPOLD'S ESTATE

Second Wife Lays Claim to All
Property Outside of
Belgium.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 18.—Baroness Vaughan, widow of the late King Leopold, quietly left Brussels today for Paris, presumably to consult with lawyers regarding the contest of Leopold's will, which the King's three daughters will institute immediately after the King's funeral on Wednesday.

The utmost secrecy surrounded the baroness' departure in order to avoid a hostile demonstration by the public.

It is announced that the baroness will return "in a few days," and there is much speculation as to whether this means that she will be present at the funeral. It is known that great pressure was brought to bear on the baroness to have her remain in seclusion during the funeral.

Princesses Louise, Stephanie, and Clementine announced that if the baroness were permitted to attend the funeral, they would absent themselves. Many think that today's departure of the baroness was not voluntary, but the authorities deny that they forced this action upon her.

Contest Promised Over Will.

There will be no contest for succession to the throne, as it is admitted on all sides that Leopold's sons, born to Baroness Vaughan, are ineligible, there having been none but a religious ceremony in their marriage, whereas the Belgian law requires both a religious and a civil ceremony.

The impending fight is, therefore, reduced to a desire for the King's vast wealth, and in its prosecution it is expected there will be brought to light many affairs in the dead King's life that the government would much prefer to have remain hidden.

It is unofficially stated today that the government will co-operate with Leopold's daughters, the Princesses Louise, Stephanie, and Clementine, in contesting the marriage of Leopold and the baroness. By leading its aid to the daughters, the government is actuated by a desire to bring the suit to a speedy termination, and escape as much scandal as possible.

Estate Estimated at \$500,000,000.

Inasmuch as the Pope told the papal representative at Brussels that Leopold's marriage to the baroness was satisfactory as far as the church was concerned, it is presumed that the contest will base their action on the absence of a civil ceremony, which is available to them because the marriage was not performed on Belgian soil, having taken place in San Remo, Italy.

The eagerness with which the daughters have attacked the baroness has convinced the public that they would have seized upon some other ground as the basis of their suit had the irregular marriage not furnished them with a right of action.

Some of the estimates of Leopold's wealth run considerably over \$100,000,000. The daughters have been cut off with a bequest of \$5,000,000, this being the sum that Leopold received from his father. The balance of the King's estate, it is presumed, is transferred to the baroness.

The contest will probably be successful as regards the King's property within Belgium, but many lawyers asserted today that the baroness' right to the King's property outside of Belgium cannot be attacked. This constituted by far the greater part of Leopold's riches, embracing his immense holdings in the Congo, large interests in American stocks and valuable realty in the Riviera.

Will Change Congo Policy.

One of the first acts of Prince Albert, on his assumption of the throne on Thursday will be a complete change in the administration of the Belgian Congo, according to a report current today. The new King, it is said, plans to oust

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

In Public Eye After Monarch's Death

CROWN PRINCE ALBERT.

WIFE AND CHILD OF NEW RULER.



FORMERLY PRINCESS LOUISE.

FORMERLY PRINCESS STEPHANIE.

LYNCH WILL HEAD NATIONAL LEAGUE

Outsider Chosen as Com-
promise Candidate—Heyd-
ler Gets Secretary's Job.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Thomas J. Lynch, of New Britain, Conn., was today elected president of the National League by a unanimous vote, ending the deadlock that has existed for three days.

John A. Heydler, whom Lynch succeeds, was elected secretary.

Lynch was nominated by John T. Brush as a compromise candidate. Lynch at the present time is the manager of the Russwyn Lyceum in New Britain, Conn. In his earlier days he was famous as an amateur ball player, and Nick Young appointed him one of his staff of umpires.

He retired from the game in 1895 to attend to his private affairs, but that he has kept up his interest in it is shown by the fact that he is a stockholder in the New Britain team. He is between forty-five and fifty years old.

After announcing the result of the election the magnates resumed their deliberations behind closed doors.

FAILS TO SEE LIGHTS, WRECKS HIS TRAIN

Engineer Adams Killed With
Four Passengers on Lake
Shore Train.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 18.—The failure of Engineer Adams to see the lights of the switch engine in time to check his train was the cause early today of a collision between train No. 1 on the Lake Shore, bound from New York to Chicago, which was side-swiped by a switch engine near the union station, resulting in the death of five persons, fatal injury to another, while several passengers were slightly bruised and cut.

The dead:
H. L. ADAMS, Collinwood, engineer.
JOHN A. SWALES, switchman.
GEORGE FRANK, switchman.
W. G. BURNS, engineer.
EDWARD RASCHER, switchman.

Fatally injured:
Jacob Currier, fireman.
The last Pullman was the only passenger coach not derailed. Passengers were thrown from berths and seats. In the two rear sleepers were fifteen Vassar girls returning to their homes for the holidays.

The switch engine was shattered and bits of it were strewn along the track for three blocks. The passenger en-

(Continued on Second Page.)

CHRISTMAS WARMS OLD CHILD'S HEART

Yuletide Spirit Pleasing to
Grown-ups As Well As
Youngsters.

By SELENE ARMSTRONG,
The St. Nicholas Girl.

Christmas is for the child, but the week before Christmas, and Christmas day, are for the man and woman. That is why the grown-ups are having such a merry time these days, helping Santa Claus and the St. Nicholas Girl. It is just a game in which the big boys and girls are allowed to play; and not being allowed to play at other times of the year, they enjoy it, I can tell you!

It warms the heart, and sets the pulses stirring youthfully, and takes the rheumatism out of stiff knees, this game of Santa Claus.

And both old and young are entering into it. Only the day before yesterday, no less a person than a real brigadier general of the United States Army, retired, came to the St. Nicholas Girl's desk with a choo-choo train under one arm, and a jumping-jack under the other.

"Why, I almost hate to give them up, for I have enjoyed them just as if I were a little boy, myself."

And the St. Nicholas Girl said, "I told you so."

Big Envelope Arrives.

And bright and early Saturday morning, here comes the biggest envelope Santa Claus and the St. Nicholas Girl have ever seen. This letter which accompanies this bursting envelope is from a man in the Bureau of Pensions—one of those who have discovered that to be a grown man is only to be a big boy. For he writes:

"Dear Miss St. Nicholas:
Please find herewith enclosed a dozen pictures which I have spent my evenings recently in pasting up. While in a hospital a few years ago, I noticed how the children, with nothing to occupy their time, enjoyed any bright magazine pictures. This pasting is slow work at best, but I have enjoyed it."

A letter in which a dollar is enclosed, says: "Dear St. Nicholas Girl, I am also a little boy, being forty-five years old. I am entirely alone in the world, with no sisters, brothers, cousins, or aunts. So you see, I don't expect any Christmas presents. I enclose a Christmas gift, in the shape of a letter, for the poor little boy forty-four years old who has the pain in his leg. I trust you to let him know that there is a letter in your Times office for him."

Could Send Cards.

Now, the St. Nicholas Girl knows not the name or address of either of these men—I mean boys—but she holds the letter in trust. And to the one who is to let him know that there is a letter in your Times office for him."

(Continued on Third Page.)

STRAW VOTE SHOWS PEOPLE THINK TAFT WITH BAD COMPANY

Magazine Readers Indorse
President, But Condemn
Cannon and Aldrich.

HOUSE INSURGENTS STRONGLY APPROVED

Country-Wide Returns Reveal En-
thusiastic Support of Anti-
Cannon Republicans.

A decidedly interesting, and in some particulars sensational, "straw ballot," apparently indicating that the country, while still loyal to President Taft, is backing up the so-called "insurgent" movement directed against Speaker Cannon and Senate Leader Aldrich, will appear next week in the January number of Success.

Particular interest attaches to the vote which was taken among the subscribers of the magazine, because of the fact that a similar poll taken last fall enabled it to predict, nearly a month before election, practically the exact electoral vote received by President Taft.

FROM ENTIRE COUNTRY.

Of the more than 25,000 persons polled, representative citizens scattered over the country, 13,102 replied. Of these 8,360 classed themselves as Republicans; 3,213 as Democrats, and 1,529 as Independents, prohibitionists, or members of other parties. Practically every State in the Union was represented in the list of replies.

On November 9, the magazine mailed to its life-subscribers a letter and a ballot containing ten questions designed to feel the public pulse on the matter of President Taft's popularity, the popular opinion of the new tariff bill, the political standing of Aldrich and Cannon, and the strength of the support of the "insurgent" movement.

Position Explained.

The letter called attention to the fact that the President on his recent tour of the country had explained his position both as to past and pending legislation, and that prominent Representatives and Senators had explained the tariff.

In view of these explanations and the light thrown on the question the balloters were asked to indicate their opinions. The tabulated questions and answers tell their own story:

Question No. 1: "Do you believe that your vote for President last November was wisely cast?"

Of the Republicans answering 5,723 voted "yes," while 540 voted "no." 2,323 Democrats voted "yes" and 206 voted "no."

Satisfied With Taft.

Question No. 2: "Are you satisfied with the first nine months of the administration of President Taft?"

Of the Republicans, 3,093 voted "yes," 2,490 voted "no," and 2,773 declined to vote at all. Of the Democrats 500 answered "yes," and 503 replied "no." Over half of the 300 Democrats who approve of the administration of President Taft, voted from the South, and in Georgia, a majority of the Democratic balloters supported him.

Question No. 3: "Do you approve of the position of Senator Aldrich in the recent tariff legislation?"

Republicans voting "yes" numbered 517, while those voting "no" numbered 5,313. But forty Democrats, of whom twenty-two are in the South, indorsed Aldrich; 2,447 voted in the negative.

Cannon's Position.

Question No. 4: "Do you approve the position of Speaker Cannon on the recent tariff legislation?"

Just a little more emphatic is the condemnation of Mr. Cannon; 490 Republican and 40 Democratic votes in the entire country being cast in the affirmative, while 6,485 Republicans and 2,447 Democrats are recorded in the negative.

It is significant that the condemnation of the positions of both Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Cannon in the tariff legislation is almost as pronounced in the Atlantic and Pacific Coast States as in the Central West, and there is every evidence, not only in the votes on these two questions, but in the general vote by districts, that both "Cannonism" and "Aldrichism" are national and general issues and do not represent merely local issues.

Question 5: "Do you approve the position of President Taft in the recent tariff legislation?"

Evenly Divided.

Here the vote is much more evenly divided, 3,102 Republicans voting "Yes" and 3,580 "No." Studying the comment that accompanies the ballot in many cases, it is apparent that the feeling is that the President has not shown sufficient backbone in resisting the stand-pat policy of the Republican leaders. Of the Democrats 344 approve and 2,361 disapprove the President's policy.

Question 6: "Is it your desire that President Taft should support and co-operate with Senator Aldrich and Speaker Cannon in the general public policies which they represent?"

From all sections of the country comes a thundering "No" in answer to this question, only 639 Republican votes be-

Suppose You Had to Be Operated Upon:

Which would you prefer—to go into it asleep or look on with your eyes wide open, seeing everything, understanding everything, and feeling nothing?"

Dr. Thomas Jonnesco, a distinguished Roumanian surgeon, has announced the discovery of a method which makes this latter course entirely possible. In the course of the past two weeks he has been demonstrating that method in New York and Philadelphia. He has made possible the cure of life-long ailments for American citizens who would never have been able to take either chloroform or ether.

The Munsey newspapers sent to those clinics Allen D. Albert, jr. After talks with Dr. Jonnesco and with certain American surgeons who do not altogether accept the discovery, Mr. Albert has written a study of it—a study in plain English, and yet without an essential omitted. From the description of a clinic with Dr. Jonnesco operating (with which it opens) to the story of the "case," where the new method could not help (with which it closes), the article is wonderfully absorbing.

It will appear only in tomorrow's

Sunday Evening Edition of The Washington Times